



**Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 pm, Monday, April 13, 2026**

**I. Call to Order- 7:05pm**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Co-Presidents Report:**

Sign Up Genius is up to date for all events.

Virtual Backpack Submissions due to Ms. Getic by the Tuesday before to be included in that week's backpack.

Open Positions:

- a. Co-President and Secretary position is vacant for next year, please reach out if interested.
- b. Light the Night for Autism- 4/30, light your house in blue or red to support Autism Awareness & Acceptance.
- c. Tricky Tray- 4/24, still accepting class donations, family basket donations & tickets still available if you want to attend!
- d. Budget Planning: Committees, please send your budget updates to the board for next school year by the end of April as we begin budget planning for 26-27 school year.
- e. Open Committee Positions include:
  - Programs
    - Playground
    - Recess Activity
    - Special Services (SEPAC Rep)
    - Demarest Community Service
    - Book Fair
    - Fall Social
    - Talent Show
    - Holiday Shop
    - Plant Sale
    - Beautification
    - Kids Tricky Tray

If interested, please email [copresidents@demaresthsa.org](mailto:copresidents@demaresthsa.org)

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Account Balances:

- a. LGCCC: \$ 2,699.00
- b. Primary Checking: \$ 65,730.80
- c. HSA Savings: \$25,615.21
- d. Playground Savings: \$32,914.24

**V. Secretary's Report**-Thank you card from scholarship recipient Jun Fung "Brendon" Ng BHS '25

**VI. Board of Education Representative's Report**-Mrs. Greene (attached)

**VII. Principal's Report**-Mr. Sullivan (attached)

**VIII. Teacher's Report** -Ms. Pontoriero-Art Show May 13<sup>th</sup> for all eight elementary schools displaying student art work.

**IX. Committee Chairperson's Reports**

- a. 6th Grade
  - i. T-shirts: Sixth grade students voted on a t-shirt design. They are in the process of being produced. All sixth graders will receive a T-shirt. The cost is included in your HSA dues for sixth grade year. Keep an eye out for communications regarding distribution.
  - ii. Dance: The date has been moved to Thursday, June 18, due to a conflict with the townwide track and field rain date (*there is no school on June 19 in recognition of*



**Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 pm, Monday, April 13, 2026**

*Juneteenth*). We are deep in the planning process. The theme is city lights and will feature decorations and food inspired by the sights and cuisines of NYC, London, Paris, Cairo, and Tokyo.

- iii. Class day (aka graduation): Takes place on June 22 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help with the refreshment table. Usually, the fifth-grade parents assist on this day. It is a great way to see what goes on and whether you are interested in volunteering for the sixth-grade committee next year!
- iv. Yearbook: We are still accepting candid photos for the yearbook. Please send them to [demgrad2026@gmail.com](mailto:demgrad2026@gmail.com). Reminder: all photos must be from Demarest-related activities (events, basketball, pep squad, field trips, etc.).
- b. HSA Basketball-All uniforms must be turned in immediately. Sixth grade girls have been undefeated for the past 3 years (30-0).
- c. Fundraising-
  - i. Gertrude Hawk
- d. Community Service-The committee donated over 280 books to Book Smiles. We extend a special thank you to Ms. Favato and the K Kids for assisting with counting and organizing the books for delivery.  
Reminder that assistance is available for class trip fees.
- e. Mini Fundraising
  - i. Dine to donate- ZiZia report-\$68 raised
  - ii. April- Angelo's the night of the Tricky Tray.
  - iii. Working on May and June events
- f. Pep Squad-The Pep Squad is going to be back in practice mode, gearing up for the Rock the Test rally later in the month. For the 26-27 season we are looking for two committee volunteers to help with administrative duties (i.e. notes for HSA mtgs, completing building use forms, helping manage communication) and help with practices. For next season we plan to send out a flyer for sign-ups to all students in August ahead of the new school year. Like other extracurricular activities, it will be first come, first serve to fill 40 slots. We'll also look to coordinate with the HSA for next season's rally dates so that they work best with the event plan, practices, and our volunteers' schedules.
- g. Programs- On Thursday 2/26, the Vanguard Theater Company from Montclair debuted the show *Hairstory* for our Demarest students. A musical that centered around a young girl's journey through time and across cultures to understand the beauty and history of hair styles, with various cultural and traditions (from a village in China, to a Mongolian warrior, to a Rastafarian, a Latino teenager, and a great, great, great, grandmother from Jim Crow south) history lessons interwoven with song and dance. The theater company built sets on our stage, with a large, framed screen with visuals for each scene throughout the show. The kids seemed to enjoy the show and hopefully felt seen and connected to their own hair journey.

On Friday 3/13, School of Rock in Montclair performed a concert assembly with an all female house band (with a guest appearance from one of our own students), featuring music by prominent women in rock and pop.

Our next program will be environment themed-- we are working with Flat Rock Brook Birds of Prey Program to identify a new date, as the current one conflicts with Take Your Kid to Work Day.



**Meeting Minutes**  
**7:00 pm, Monday, April 13, 2026**

- h. Beautification-Spring Beautification and Townwide Clean-up, 9-12, Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. The spring beautification day will take place on April 25, in conjunction with the Bloomfield Townwide Clean-Up. Time is 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We need volunteers to help make this a successful event. We will be picking up garbage, weeding, and raking. We will also be planting seeds in the raised garden bed for the pollinator garden (I bought the seeds already). We have invited the K Kids to help out. Flyers were copied today for distribution. Looking ahead, I surveyed the daffodils along the gym wall and by the sign now that they have bloomed. We will need to order some more bulbs to be planted in the fall, but not many. They were originally planted and donated by Gabe Foncello's dad several years ago.
- i. SEPAC- Last meeting was on March 17 and featured a presentation from Hinkle Prior Fischer & Oberweis titled Advocating for an Appropriate School Placement and Related Services. If you would like a copy of the presentation overview, please let me know. I can be reached at [specialservices@demaresthsa.org](mailto:specialservices@demaresthsa.org).
- j. Plant sale- The Annual Plant Sale will be held May 8, during the school day. We have a new vendor this year: Alpine Nursery in Belleville. We will be selling succulents, in addition to our usual offerings. Plants will be priced \$2-\$5 (no increase from last year). There will also be various garden accessories for sale. Don't forget to send your child in with a box to bring home plants. Set-up volunteers are in good shape - Don't forget to bring scissors! We need additional volunteers to help students shop during the school day. Please sign-up via Sign Up Genius. Flyers will be sent home closer to the event. If you have questions, you can reach out at [plantsale@demaresthsa.org](mailto:plantsale@demaresthsa.org).
- k. Book Fair-In school April 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> After school 3:30-5 on Tuesday.  
Family Night April 15<sup>th</sup> 5:30-8 Cash or Ewallet
- l. Talent Show-Earned \$342
- m. Movie Night, Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Rain or Shine
- X. Old Business**  
**XI. New Business**  
**XII. Announcements-May 4, 2026**  
**XIII. Adjournment-7:40pm**

## April 2026 HSA Talking Points

- **CONGRATULATIONS**

- [Ms. Jessica Barton Is the Bloomfield School District Teacher of the Year.](#)
  - Jessica Barton from Demarest School has been named our Bloomfield Public School District Teacher of the Year.
- Congratulations to BHS senior wrestler Saharia Quimona! After an incredible undefeated season and a NJ State Championship win, Saharia was recently crowned a National Champion at the tournament in Virginia Beach. We are so proud of your hard work and achievements!
- Congratulations to our Track & Field staff for being named the 2025-2026 Essex County Coaching Staff of the Year. Thank you for showing up and working hard each and every day for the student-athletes

- **DISTRICT**

- Bloomfield Schools celebrated SEL Day on March 2. Students throughout the district engaged in a variety of meaningful lessons and hands-on activities designed to support social and emotional growth.
- All Bloomfield schools participated in the Sandy Hook Promise initiative, Say Something Week, the week of March 2-6.
- Bloomfield Schools celebrated Pi Day on 3/13.
- Bloomfield Schools celebrated Women's History Month through various lessons, activities and celebrations.
- Fine Arts students participated in the Townwide Music Festival at BHS on March 25.
- Spring concert season is here! Check the website for your school's schedule. A huge well done to everyone who has already performed!
- Bloomfield Schools participated in Autism Acceptance/Awareness Month at all schools.

- **High School**

- We want to congratulate our seniors on their continued success as they receive acceptance letters from a wide range of colleges and universities.
  - Congratulations to our students who have committed to trade schools or enlisted in the armed forces. We are incredibly proud of your dedication to these vital careers.
  - We are proud of all of you as you begin your next journey.

- Congratulations to Barbara Albarracin, for being recognized as a 2026 Essex County Unsung Hero! Your dedication and impact do not go unnoticed. Well deserved.
- **Middle School**
  - Bloomfield Middle School celebrated Pi Day (3/13) . Check BMS social media for lots of fun pictures and videos captured that day.
- **Elementary News**
  - Bloomfield Schools celebrated our annual One Book Initiative this past month ([A Boy Called Bat](#)). It was a fun learning experience for our students and we thank the teachers and parents for their support.
  - A huge thank you to Professor Kazoun and the College of Education at William Paterson University for sharing incredible artifacts with us to create an interactive museum in honor of the Negro Baseball League at Berkeley & Watsessing Schools.
  - All schools celebrated Read Across America Week earlier this month. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to our school media specialists for making it such an engaging and enjoyable experience for the entire community.
- **Important Dates**
  - Please check the [website link](#) for all the upcoming events across the district
  - 4/14/2026 BOE Meeting
  - 4/28/26 Board Meeting (Public Hearing of the Budget)
    - 6:30 PM Executive Session/7:30 PM Public Session
      - Board Meetings will remain in the Conference Room of the Administration Building.
  - 5/12/26 BOE Meeting
  - 5/26/26 BOE Meeting

**Demarest School**  
465 Broughton Ave  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003  
(973) 680-8510



---

April 13, 2026

Welcome back!

I hope everybody had a wonderful spring break. This is an exciting week back with our Scholastic Book Fair running today to Wednesday of this week.

Construction is moving along at Demarest and we thank our students and staff for their patience with the project. It will be all worth it at the end!

Spring Pictures are on April 22nd.

Take Your Child to Work Day is on Thursday, April 23rd. If your child is going to be going to work with you, we ask you to please email Mrs. Rosant ahead of time.

April 30th will be Take a Walk to School with the Bloomfield Police with an 8:00 meeting at Clark's Pond.

It's a great day to be a Bengal!

Sincerely,  
Mike Sullivan



## Shining a Light for Autism

Please join the Bloomfield Board of Education and the school district in supporting Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month. We invite you to show your support by lighting up your porch light, window, or walkway. Choose a color that resonates with you, either red or blue. Let's make Bloomfield a shining light this month!

### [Red & Blue for Autism](#)

<b>Home Depot</b>	<b>Amazon</b>
<u><a href="#">Blue Outdoor Flood Light</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Blue Firework Lights</a></u>
<u><a href="#">Blue Decorative Indoor/Outdoor Lights</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Blue Outdoor Lightbulbs</a></u>
<u><a href="#">Blue Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Blue Flameless Candles</a></u>
<u><a href="#">Red Outdoor Flood Light</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Red Floodlight</a></u>
<u><a href="#">Red Decorative Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Red Flameless Candles</a></u>
<u><a href="#">Red Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Red Clear Outdoor Lightbulb</a></u>

### **Suggested Products for HSA**

<b>Luminary Bags</b> <b>Red Flameless Candle</b> <b>Blue Flameless Candle</b>	<u><a href="#">Amazon Link</a></u> <u><a href="#">Red Flameless Candle</a></u> <u><a href="#">Blue Flameless Candles</a></u>
---	--

*Take a picture of your display or video and send it to [jkhoury@bloomfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:jkhoury@bloomfield.k12.nj.us) so we can celebrate your support. You can use the hashtag #07003shinelightforautism*



## ***Iluminando el autismo***

Únase a la Junta de Educación de Bloomfield y al distrito escolar para apoyar el Mes de Concientización y Aceptación del Autismo. Lo invitamos a mostrar su apoyo iluminando la luz de su porche, ventana o pasillo. Elija un color que resuene con usted, ya sea rojo o azul. ¡[Hagamos de Bloomfield una luz brillante este mes!](#)

<b>Home Depot</b>	<b>Amazon</b>
<a href="#"><u>Blue Outdoor Flood Light</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Blue Firework Lights</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Blue Decorative Indoor/Outdoor Lights</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Blue Outdoor Lightbulbs</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Blue Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Blue Flameless Candles</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Red Outdoor Flood Light</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Red Floodlight</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Red Decorative Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Red Flameless Candles</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Red Indoor/Outdoor Lightbulbs</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Red Clear Outdoor Lightbulb</u></a>

### ***Productos sugeridos para HSA***

<b>Bolsas de luminarias</b> <b>Vela roja sin llama</b> <b>Vela azul sin llama</b>	<a href="#"><u>Amazon Link</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Red Flameless Candle</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Blue Flameless Candles</u></a>
---	--

Tome una fotografía de su exhibición o video y envíelo a [jkhoury@bloomfield.k12.nj.us](mailto:jkhoury@bloomfield.k12.nj.us) para que podamos celebrar su apoyo. Puedes utilizar el hashtag #07003shinelightforautism

BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY  
UNITED IN SUPPORT!

# NIGHT OF LIGHTS

IN SUPPORT OF  
AUTISM AWARENESS & ACCEPTANCE MONTH

APRIL 30TH

A DISTRICT-WIDE NIGHT OF LIGHTS

*Dear Community Members,*

The Bloomfield Board of Education and Special Services invite you to celebrate neurodiversity and show your support for **Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month!**

On Wednesday, April 30th, let's come together as **ONE Bloomfield!** Light up your homes, porches, windows, and walkways in **RED** or **BLUE** to shine in support of individuals and families impacted by autism.

Every light sends a powerful message:

**WE SEE YOU. WE SUPPORT YOU. WE ACCEPT YOU.**



Together, we make Bloomfield a community that celebrates differences, promotes understanding, and shines brighter for everyone!

## PLACES TO FIND LIGHTS



**THE HOME DEPOT**  
Shop Lights  
In-Store & Online  
[www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com)



**AMAZON**  
Blue & Red Lights,  
Candles & More  
[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



**WALMART**  
Outdoor Lights,  
Lightbulbs & Decor  
[www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com)



**TARGET**  
Seasonal Lights  
& Home Decor  
[www.target.com](http://www.target.com)



**LOWE'S**  
Outdoor Lighting  
& Bulbs  
[www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)



**DOLLAR TREE**  
LED Lights &  
Flameless Candles  
[www.dollartree.com](http://www.dollartree.com)



You can choose any style that works for you -  
**LIGHT IT BLUE OR KEEP IT RED!**



### SHARE YOUR LIGHT!

Snap a photo or video of your lights and share the glow!  
#07003NightOfLights  
#07003ShiningALightForAutism

LET'S MAKE BLOOMFIELD  
**SHINE!**



TOGETHER, WE MAKE  
BLOOMFIELD SHINE!



ACCEPT. UNDERSTAND. CELEBRATE.